

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling navigation events between a plurality of services and/or channels in an interactive broadcasting system including at least one interactive decoder, said system broadcasting applications to be received by said decoder, applications utilized by the decoder being categorised into at least two types of applications including a first type termed a surfer application for controlling said navigation and having knowledge of said services, and a second type termed a built-in banner, the method comprising:

identifying in a broadcast stream a surfer application;

downloading the surfer application to the decoder;

detecting a navigation event;

performing a test on a bouquet service list in response to detecting said navigation event, wherein said test comprises determining whether surfer linkage is provided;

if no surfer linkage is provided and no surf track is found, displaying no surfer application;

checking whether a surfer application is available or said decoder is under control of a surfer application;

routing said navigation event to a first surfer application, in response to determining the first surfer application is available or the decoder is under control of the first surfer application, wherein the first surfer application is started in a transparent mode by default; and

routing said navigation event to a built-in banner, in response to determining no surfer application is available and the decoder is not under control of a surfer application;

wherein the built-in banner comprises an application that is built-in to the decoder and is configured to:

control navigation events; and

present said services to a user.

2-7. (Cancelled).

8. (Currently Amended) An interactive broadcasting system for controlling navigation events between a plurality of services and/or channels, including at least one interactive decoder, said decoder receiving broadcast applications, applications utilized by the decoder being categorised into at least two types of applications including a first type termed a surfer application for controlling said navigation and having knowledge of said services, and a second type termed a built-in banner, wherein the decoder is configured to:

identify in a broadcast stream a surfer application;

download the surfer application;

detect a navigation event;

perform a test on a bouquet service list in response to detecting said navigation event, wherein said test comprises determining whether surfer linkage is provided;

if no surfer linkage is provided and no surf track is found, display no surfer application;

check whether a first surfer application is available or said decoder is under control of a first surfer application;

route said navigation event to the first surfer application, in response to determining the surfer application is available or the decoder is under control of the first surfer application, wherein the first surfer application is started in a transparent mode by default; and

route said navigation event to a built-in banner, in response to determining no surfer application is available and the decoder is not under control of a surfer application;

wherein the built-in banner comprises an application that is built-in to the decoder and is configured to:

control navigation events; and

present said services to a user.

9-13. (Cancelled).

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein in response to detecting said navigation event and determining the decoder is under the control of the first surfer application, the method further comprises:

the first surfer application entering a visible mode of operation; and
selecting a service corresponding to said navigation event.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the first surfer application is stopped when an application different from a surfer application, termed a normal application, is displayed, and is re-launched when said normal application is finished.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1 further comprising presenting an interface including a list of surfers that allows the user to select one particular surfer application from said list and to come back to said list after selection, if desired.

17. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 8 further comprising presenting an interface including a list of surfers that allows the user to select one particular surfer application from said list and to come back to said list after selection, if desired.

18. (Cancelled).

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the method is implemented in a DVB environment, and wherein surfer applications are signaled in bouquet association tables (BAT).

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising downloading a plurality of surfer applications within corresponding surfer caches, and selecting one of said downloaded surfer applications.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the first surfer application has a visible mode of running and a transparent mode of running.

22. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 8, wherein in response to detecting said navigation event and determining the decoder is under the control of said first surfer, the decoder is further configured to make the first surfer visible and select a service corresponding to said navigation event

23. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 8 wherein the decoder is further configured to:

stop the first surfer application when an application different from a surfer application, termed a normal application, is displayed; and
re-launch the first surfer application when said normal application is finished.

24. (Previously Presented) The system according to a claim 22 wherein the decoder is further configured to:

stop the first surfer application when an application different from a surfer application, termed a normal application, is displayed; and
re-launch the first surfer application when said normal application is finished.

25. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 8 wherein the decoder is further configured to:

present an interface including a list of surfers that allows the user to select one particular surfer application from said list and to come back to said list after selection, if desired.

26. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 22 wherein the decoder is further configured to:

present an interface including a list of surfers that allows the user to select one particular surfer application from said list and to come back to said list after selection, if desired.

27. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 23 wherein the decoder is further configured to:

present an interface including a list of surfers that allows the user to select one particular surfer application from said list and to come back to said list after selection, if desired.

28. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 8 wherein a memory of the decoder comprises a plurality of surfer caches for storing corresponding different surfer applications.

29. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 22 wherein a memory of the decoder comprises a plurality of surfer caches for storing corresponding different surfer applications.

30. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 8 wherein the system is implemented in a DVB environment, and wherein surfer applications are signaled in bouquet association tables (BAT).

31. (Cancelled).

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the built-in banner is configured to present services without use of a downloaded surfer application.

33. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 8 wherein the built-in banner is configured to present services without use of a downloaded surfer application.